



Florida House of Representatives
Representative Jennifer Carroll
District 13

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CARROLL BILL FOR SAFER STREETS PASSES HOUSE

TALLAHASSEE -- The House unanimously passed a bill by State Representative Jennifer Carroll (R-Green Cove Springs) to codify neighborhood crime watch programs into law and to provide protection for those volunteers who participate in the programs.

“Citizen street patrols have a long history in our country of building stronger communities and helping to keep our streets safer,” said Rep. Carroll. “Those who volunteer for neighborhood watch programs deserve our thanks, respect, and protection.”

House Bill (HB) 511 authorizes county sheriffs or municipal police to establish neighborhood crime watch programs which may include local residents or business owners.

In addition, the bill protects members of a neighborhood crime watch program. It would be a misdemeanor offense to harass a member of a neighborhood crime watch program in the following circumstances: for their participation in the program; during their travel to or from a watch meeting or activity; during a meeting; or while they are involved in an ongoing criminal investigation.

HB 511 will now move to the Senate where a similar bill is being considered.

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